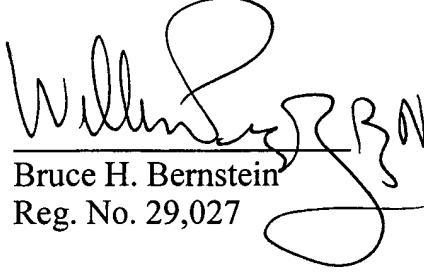


P17947.A07

The claims submitted in this amendment have not been submitted to overcome prior art, and thus, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
Junichi IIDA

  
Bruce H. Bernstein  
Reg. No. 29,027

BN.3363

August 23, 2002  
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.  
1941 Roland Clarke Place  
Reston, VA 20191  
(703) 716-1191